

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024

Present:-

Cllr. Nick Chapman (Chairman)
Cllr. Janet Forey (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Royston Bayliss	Cllr. Nigel Grundy	Cllr. Mike Shirley
Cllr. Nick Brown	Cllr. Richard Holdridge	Cllr. Roger Stead
Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore	Cllr. Mark Jackson	Cllr. Ben Taylor
Cllr. Stuart Coar	Cllr. Becca Lunn	Cllr. Bev Welsh
Cllr. Tony Deakin	Cllr. Antony Moseley	Cllr. Jane Wolfe
Cllr. Roy Denney	Cllr. Les Phillimore	Cllr. Maggie Wright
Cllr. Alex DeWinter	Cllr. Terry Richardson	Cllr. Neil Wright
Cllr. Susan Findlay	Cllr. Ande Savage	
Cllr. Helen Gambardella	Cllr. Tracey Shepherd	

Officers present:-

Julia Smith	- Chief Executive
Sarah Pennelli	- Executive Director - S.151 Officer
Marc Greenwood	- Executive Director - Place
Paul Coates	- Neighbourhood Services Group Manager
Linda Durham	- Solicitor & Deputy Monitoring Officer
Katie Brooman	- Elections and Governance Manager
Sandeep Tiensa	- Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Isaac Thomas	- Democracy Support Officer
Nicole Cramp	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer

Apologies:-

Cllr. Shabbir Aslam, Cllr. Lee Breckon JP, Cllr. Adrian Clifford, Cllr. Luke Cousin,
Cllr. Hannah Gill, Cllr. Paul Hartshorn, Cllr. Dillan Shikotra, Cllr. Matt Tomeo and
Cllr. Bob Waterton

36. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore - Item 11 – Fosse Meadows Lease of Land

Nature of Interest - None Registerable Interest.

Extent of Interest - Family member owns coffee van on the site.

37. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2024 as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

38. CLLR. JANET FOREY - DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr. Janet Forey read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked Members for the privilege and honour of being elected as Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2024/25.

39. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair, Cllr. Nick Chapman made announcements in respect of the following:

- Attended a meeting with Mike Kapur, the Lord Lieutenant for Leicestershire, along with other civic leaders to discuss plans for the upcoming year on 5 June 2024.
- Planted an English Oak Tree at Normandy Green in Glenfield on 6 June 2024. The turnout for this event was heartwarming, with many members of the community coming together to witness the symbolic act.
- Attended the Sharnford Fete, where I had the pleasure of presenting the Jubilee Cup to Margaret Sanders in recognition of her remarkable 50 years of service on the Evergreen Hall committee on 9 June 2024.
- Attended the Thurlaston Carnival on 22 June 2024.
- The Chairman had the honour of hosting veterans and other community members at the council offices for Armed Forces Week. It was a humbling experience to raise the flag in their honour and spend time conversing with the veterans and volunteers from the Royal British Legion On the 24th of June 2024.
- Attended Jubilee Square for the Armed Forces parade.
- Visited 'A Place to Grow' and was deeply moved by the incredible work being done there.
- On the 8th of July, I attended the Framework Knitters fundraising event in Wigston on the 8 July 2024.
- On the 11 July 2024 the Chairman attended the Annual Warning Zone

Osprey Evening which was a Drinks Cruise aboard the Rutland Belle on Rutland Water hosted by Warning Zone, a charity established in 2012, which educates children and young people through engaging, interactive methods to help reduce the risks of death, injury, crime, antisocial behaviour, bullying, harmful relationships, grooming, and various forms of online and offline coercion and control.

40. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader, Cllr. Terry Richardson presented his statement in respect of the following:

- General Election 2024 & The Debate Not Hate Campaign
- Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange recommendation
- Youth Council Activities
- Braunstone Conservation Area Proposals
- Hayes Gardens public engagement
- Ice House Tours and new Childrens Trails
- Solar Together latest round launched

Cllr. Nick Brown thanks the elections department for the smooth delivery of the 2024 General Election.

41. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS - PLANNING CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE

Considered- Report of the Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer.

DECISION

That the Planning Code of Good Practice at Part 5, Section 2 of the Constitution be adopted.

Reason:

The Council must ensure that it has an up-to-date and current Constitution that accurately reflects the way that the Council operates.

42. GREEN CIRCLE PRESENTATION

Cllr. Stuart Coar left and returned to the meeting during this item.

Members received a presentation from Professor Sarah Gabbot, Ian Reitdijk & Beth Traae who were representing Green Circle.

The presentation covered the following points:

- What Green Circle do
- Who they work with
- Their aims for Fosse Meadows
- How they would like to improve the visitor experience
- Photograph of their work so far
- Income streams
- Future plans should the lease be granted

43. PUBLIC SPEAKING PROTOCOL

No requests were received.

44. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

No questions were received.

45. FOSSE MEADOWS LEASE OF LAND

Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore, having earlier declared an interest in this item, left the meeting for consideration of the item and returned when the agenda item had been concluded.

Considered - Report of the Executive Director (Section 151 Officer), presented by Cllr. Nigel Grundy, Neighbourhood Services & Assets Portfolio Holder.

DECISIONS

1. That the principle of entering into a long term lease of the land at Fosse Meadows Strategic Park to Green Circle CIC be approved.
2. That delegated authority to given to the Executive Director (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Neighbourhood Services and Assets Portfolio Holder to agree terms and conclude the legal arrangements.

Reasons:

1. The leasing of Fosse Meadows Strategic Park will enable Green Circle CIC to make improvements to the site; enable grant applications to be made and resources to be available to restore and conserve the site for biodiversity whilst also providing an accessible site for people to connect with nature. The Council will also benefit from revenue savings and this initiative supports the site becoming financially sustainable.
2. The agreement of terms and legal arrangements will allow the Council to

benefit from the lease arrangements whilst protecting its interest in the park.

46. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET EXECUTIVE: TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN 2023/24

Considered - Report of the Finance Group Manager, presented by Cllr. Maggie Wright, Deputy Leader and Finance, People & Performance Portfolio Holder.

DECISIONS

1. That the treasury management activities for 2023/24 be approved.
2. That the prudential and treasury indicators for 2023/24 be approved.
3. That the delegated decision taken to transfer proceeds from asset sales in the Lothbury Property Trust into the UBS Triton fund be noted.

Reasons:

1. The regulatory framework governing treasury management activities includes a requirement that the Council should produce an annual review of treasury activities undertaken in the preceding financial year. It must also report the performance against the approved prudential indicators for the year.
2. This report fulfils the requirement above and incorporates the needs of the Prudential Code to ensure adequate monitoring of capital expenditure plans and the Council's prudential indicators. The treasury strategy and prudential indicators for 2022/23 were contained in the report approved by Council on 22nd February 2023.

47. MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT 2024

Considered - Report of the Customer Insight, Experience and Engagement Service Manager, presented by Cllr. Terry Richardson - Leader of the Council.

DECISION

That the Modern Slavery Statement at Appendix A be adopted.

Reasons:

1. It is a requirement of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 that organisations with

a turnover of £36m or more publish a statement on their approach to ensuring that there is no modern slavery in their own business and their supply chains. Although Blaby District Council is under no legal obligation to publish a statement, the Local Government Association is encouraging all local authorities to produce an annual statement ensuring transparency in their approach to modern slavery and human trafficking.

2. The Modern Slavery Act also includes a number of provisions for local authorities. Section 52 of the Act places a duty to identify and report potential victims through the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). Depending on the age and needs of victims of modern slavery, councils may also have statutory responsibilities to provide support to them.
3. Relevant policies should reflect the councils agreed approach to tackling modern slavery and human trafficking to ensure that this statement is successfully delivered.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.44 P.M.